

Members of the Finance, Review and Bonding Committee I am writing this testimony in opposition of House Bill 5653 AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN EXCISE TAX ON AMMUNITION TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY GUN VIOLENCE AND INTERVENTION PROGRAM GRANTS.

I believe this bill will put undue burden on gun owners. By adding this additional tax to the sale of ammunition it will drastically increase the cost of ammunition which is already at an all time high. Already myself and others are finding it difficult to purchase ammunition in the current economic conditions. This makes it harder to train, practice and maintain proficiency with our firearms.

For example this bill would add a \$0.02 increase to each round of .22 rimfire ammunition. A very common round for target shooting and small game hunting. I currently purchase 325 round boxes of .22 ammunition at Walmart for \$20. This proposed tax would add \$6.50 to the cost of the box. That is almost a 33% increase on what is already considered an economic and value oriented ammunition and caliber.

I hope the committee will see reason and not push this proposed bill out of committee.

Thank you for your time,  
Benjamin Palizza  
Vernon Resident